



*Nisaëtus Nipalensis*  
type of the new Genus *Nisaëtus*.

diery occasionally. A web of six yards long by two feet broad, costs three current rupees. The manufacture of this article is confined principally to the larger towns of the valley.

17. *Bhím Poga*.—(Newári.) An ancient manufacture and article of clothing of the Newárs, but not worn by them in the present day. Is wore only by a class of outcasts, and is with difficulty procurable; its only use at present is, to roll the corpse of religious persons in previous to being burned. The warp, is of coarse cotton thread, the woof of soft spun woollen yarn, in addition to which some fine wool is amalgamated with the web in weaving it. Its texture is very soft, and is well calculated for a warm in-door wear; it is too fleecy to be kept out wet. A piece of four feet long by two feet wide, costs two current rupees.

V.—*Summary Description of some New Species of Falconidæ.* By  
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Genus *Aquila*. Species new. *Aquila Pernigra*. Jetty Eagle, (mihi.)  
*Habitat*, the central and northern regions of *Nepál*.

This species is throughout of a black colour, but less pure below than above, and the tail is transversely marked with four or five broad bands of a paler and brownish hue. The cere and toes are bright yellow. The bill blue, with a black tip; the talons black, and the iris brown. It is a bird of somewhat slender form, and very graceful and powerful flight, possessing all the influential characters of the genus, as now restricted; but distinguished from its type, or *chrysactos*, by a slenderer bill, rather longer toes, and longer and more acute talons. It is two feet five inches from tip of the bill to the end of the tail, and five feet and a half between the wings; and is chiefly remarkable for the extreme inequality of size and acuteness of the talons. The orbits are downy; the sides of the cere clad in short, soft hairs; and the feathers of the hind head and neck are prolonged into a vague crest of narrow composed plumes. The cere is rather large, but not heavy; the bill longer than the head, but slight rather in form. The wings are equal to the tail, with the fourth quill longest, and all the great ones strongly emarginated, remotely from their tips; the tips being inclined a little inwards: tail even, or subrounded.

The tarsi moderate and plumed; toes nude and reticulate, with three or four scales next the talons, which, as already noticed, are very acute, and the inner fore and hind ones of extreme length and curve. The inner fore talon is the largest, then the hind one, next the central, and the outer fore, least.

The nares are obliquely cleft in the cere, and of an irregular oval shape, with the upper margin arched and tumid.

This is a shy bird, which adheres exclusively to the wild and mountainous tracts of the hills. Its body is entirely free from offensive odour and vermin, and its prey chiefly the pheasants of the region it frequents, as well as their eggs. Its weight is about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.

Genus *Haliaeetus*. Species new. *H. Albipes*, (mihi.)

This species is two feet nine inches long, and six feet eight between the tips of the wings. In colour it nearly resembles *Macei*, having the head, neck, and body, pale ruddy brown, darker on the thighs and rump; the scapulars, wings and tail, saturate brown: a large bar of pure white through the centre of the tail: and the cheeks, chin, and throat, hoary. The bill and head are considerably narrower than in the golden eagle, but the bill is fully as long in proportion to the head, and even more so. The toes are longer and less thick than in that species, and the talons rather more curved. In other respects, these members sufficiently resemble those of the type of *Aquila*. But the tarsi are nearly nude: the acropodia, as well as acrotarsia, wholly scaled; and the toes are cleft. The bill is longer than the head, straight towards the base, and at it nearly twice as broad as high. The lateral compression is, in general, moderate, and the ridge acutish; the hook, large; the cutting edges, even. The cere, large, nude, clad only on the sides towards the base with soft hairs, diverging from the fore angle of the eye. Nostrils, forward, sub-basal, obliquely transverse, irregularly oval, simple, and inclined to a curve at the forward extremity. The tarsi are low, thick, and gummy; plumed over the knee, and a little below it. The toes, longish, unequal, stout, cleft to their origins; but the outer *not* versatile. To the front, both tarsi and toes are scaled, as already noted; but the junction of the toes and tarsi, as well as the sides and backs of the latter, are reticulate. The central toe is as long as the tarsi. The talons are long, arched, stout, and moderately acute: the hind one being the largest. All are flat below. The wings are very nearly equal to the tail, and have the fourth quill longest. Most of the great quills are strongly emarginated, high up, on both webs. The tail is of medial length, and square. The hook of the bill and the talons are black; the bill blue; the cere yellow: iris hazel brown, and feet pure white.

This species is generally found on the banks of the larger rivers, near to where they issue into the plains, and it preys on fish.

Genus *Nisactus*, (mihi.)

The birds of this genus are distinguished by wings and tail formed upon the accipitrine model; but their nares are transverse and speculated as in the eagles. Their festooned bills have a form which is osculant between the hawks and buzzards. They have the long slen-

der plumed tarsi of *Limnæetus*, and the long, acute, and unequal talons of the noblest hawks and falcons, to which moreover they assimilate in their manners, adhering exclusively to the wilds, and killing their own prey, which consists of pigeons, jungle fowls, and partridges.

Species *Nipalensis*, mihi. *Habitat*, the lower hills and *Saul* forest.

This species is liable to vary very considerably in colour, and is sometimes found possessed of a drooping egret-like crest of two long, narrow, composed plumes. I have several specimens, procured within the past 10 years; but, as I cannot venture to determine the diversities of appearance with reference to sex and age and season, I shall describe a bird in each of the more striking aspects it presents.

1st. This is the uncrested and paler aspect. The head, the neck, the whole body below, with the basal and interior parts of the plumage above, are white; the wings, back, and tail, brown.

The crown of the head, and the dorsal face of the neck, have a pale fawn-coloured smearing. The cheeks, chin, and throat are immaculate; the head, neck, and body, below marked lengthwise, with narrow lines of saturate brown. The thighs are transversely barred with pale fawn; and the plumes of the tarsi, with the lower tail coverts, are unmarked. Several of the lesser wing coverts are broadly margined with white. The wings and tail have seven cross bars of saturate brown, which are vaguely seen above—clearly on the pale inferior surface. The lining of the wings is white, with here and there a heart-shaped brown mark.

2nd. In this, the darker and crested form, the head and neck are brown, with broad white margins,—a change caused by the expansion of the central streaks of No. 1. The cheeks and chin have a triple longitudinal marking of brown, one line proceeding from the chin down the throat, and one from either side of the gape over the cheeks. The transverse bars of the thighs are darker, being brown rather than rufous, and they are extended over the tarsi and inferior tail coverts. Lastly, from the back part of the head proceed two long, narrow, composed plumes of brown colour, forming a very graceful pendant crest.

In both birds, the bill is blue at the base, black at the tip; the cere, greenish yellow; the iris, golden; the toes yellow, and the nails, black. The largest specimen procured by me is  $29\frac{1}{2}$  inches long and 60 wide: the smallest is 25 inches long and  $49\frac{1}{2}$  wide. The former weighed 4 lbs., the latter, 2 lbs. 12 oz. The intestines vary in length from 46 to 50 inches. There are two small cœca: the gut is much more capacious above than below. The stomach, though, of course, of the solvent type, has a thickish sub-muscular outer coat, and there are soft ridges along its inner surface.

The following characters of the bill and other members and organs apply equally to the foregone, and to that which will be presently described. The bill is shorter than the head, moderately compressed, scarcely arched from the base, and scarcely straight at it, distinctly festooned, and moderately hooked, with the tip of the lower mandible very slightly truncated.

The cere is moderately sized, and covered on the sides with down and soft hairs, which latter scarcely reach forward to the nares. The nares are almost vertical, ovate, angulated, and smallish. The orbits, clad; the cartilage of the brows, nude and prominent; the eye, rather large; the tarsi, long, slender, and plumed; the toes of medial unequal length and thickness; slenderer and longer than in *Aquila* or in *Buteo*, not so long or so fine as in the noble hawks and falcons, although, as in them, possessed of rough soles and large balls; acropodia, reticulate, with three or four scales next the talons. The outer toe is connected with the central by a membrane: the talons, long, acute, and unequal, as much so as in the noblest of the hawks; the hind talon, largest, and all flat beneath.

The wings and tail are as strong and firm as in the finest of the Falconine race. The tail consists of 12 equal and broad feathers. The wings reach only to its centre. The fifth quill is the longest: but the fourth and sixth are nearly equal to it; the first considerably, the second and third, moderately and equally, graduated up to the longest; first to sixth inclusively emarginate, high up, on the inner web, and second to seventh, on the outer.

Species *Grandis*, (mihi.)

I have been able to procure but one species of this bird, which was taken alive, and lived in confinement upwards of three years. It died in December, in full plumage. It was a male, and answered to the following description. The iris is brown; the cere and toes, yellow; the bill, blue, its tip and the talons, black. Head, neck, body, and wings, saturate brown above, beneath white, stained with rufous; the tail, above, slaty-blue. The cheeks, chin, throat, and breast exhibit on each plume a central broad stripe of dark brown, following the shaft, and margined on either side with rufous, on a white ground. The thighs are, herring-boned with brown; and the tarsi and vent, narrowly streaked lengthwise with the same colour. The under tail coverts transversely barred with mixed rufous and brown: and the ground colour of the thighs and tarsi, for the most part, rufous. The lining of the wings is an irregular mixture of the hues of the upper and lower surfaces: or saturate brown and white, stained with rufous. There are six narrow, irregular cross bars on the tail, with

one broad terminal one, of a blackish hue; but the tip itself is pale. The wings and tail, on their inner surface, are whitish, irregularly crossed with freckles of brown, disposed barwise.

The bird measured 27 inches by 60, and weighed 5 lbs.

VI.—*Synoptical Description of Sundry New Animals, enumerated in the Catalogue of Nipálese Mammals.* By B. H. HODGSON, Esq.

SCIUROPTERUS, Cuvier.

Species, *Alboniger*. Black and white.

Flying Squirrel, mihi.

Habitat, central and Northern regions of Nipál.

*Sc.* above black, faintly shaded with hoary or rufous; below, white, with a slight tinge of yellow; tail, concolorous with the body above, distinctly distichous, flattened, and rather shorter than the animal. Nude skin of lips, ears, and feet fleshy white. Snout to rump, 11 inches; tail,  $8\frac{1}{4}$ , without the terminal hair—9, with it; weight, 9 oz.

*Observations.* The sexes are alike: the young are pure black above, pure white below. The species has but six teats, four ventral and two inguinal. The intestines are 85 inches long, or eight times the length of the animal. They have a wide cæcum of nine inches in length, placed at 18 inches only from the anal extremity.

Species, *Magnificus*. Splendid.

Flying Squirrel, mihi.

Habitat, as above.

*Sc.* Above, intense chesnut, (the fruit;) below and the shoulders, golden red; tail, paler than the body above, and tipped black: a black zone round the eyes, and another embracing the mustachios; chin, pale, with a black triangular spot. Nude parts of skin, fleshy white. Tail, cylindrico-depressed, and considerably longer than the animal.

Parachute, large, enveloping six inches of the tail. Length of the animal, 16 inches, of the tail, 22; weight  $3\frac{1}{4}$  lbs.

*Observations.* Sexes, essentially similar in colour. In old animals the chesnut colour tipt hoary, and, in the young, black tipt. In all, the tail, beyond the limits of the parachute, is paler than the superior surface of the body: and the black point is always present. So are the facial marks, though they be less conspicuous in young specimens. The intestinal canal is fourteen feet two inches long, or  $10\frac{1}{2}$  times as long as the body; 8.8 to the cæcum; 5.6 below it. The